

# YEARLY ACTIVITIES

## CHOOSING MEMBERS

### School Records

Graduate and undergraduate members should be chosen at least once a year. After the completion of the first semester, ask the registrar for records of all students who have grade point averages at or above the level you have specified for your chapter. (Waiting for the end of the first semester allows many juniors to acquire enough course credits to qualify.)

If the school permits, you may ask the president and vice president to choose from among the students with the required grade point average, those who have taken enough decision science courses (as specified by your chapter constitution) to qualify. Some schools do not permit students to look at other students' records; then the sponsor will have to do the selection. If your chapter requires recommendations, you may inform the selected students and ask them to obtain the needed recommendations. If not, inform the selected students of their selection. (You might include the alpha iota delta web site address and a brochure describing the organization.) The selection letter should ask the student to submit the fee for initiation and jewelry by a certain date if he/she wishes to become a member. At the same time it might be wise to attach a form where the student selects the jewelry and gives you a permanent mailing address. Sample letters are shown in Exhibit F and a sample form is shown in Exhibit G.

### Advertisement of Requirements

Many times students who are not business majors are eligible for membership in Alpha Iota Delta. Unfortunately, if you pull the records for business students only, then you miss these students. Therefore, it is a good idea to post the requirements for membership in a convenient area where students who are interested and feel they are eligible can contact the faculty advisor. This may improve your response rate and at the same time provide publicity for your chapter.

### Sending Inductee Lists to Headquarters

Allow one week after the closing date that you have announced for students to return acceptances and initiation fees. Then send your membership list, initiation fees, and jewelry order to:

Dr. Terry Howard, Executive Director  
Alpha Iota Delta  
22200 W. Eleven Mile Road, # 200  
Southfield, MI 48037  
United States

A sample membership list and jewelry is shown as Exhibit H. Allow approximately one month to receive completed membership certificates and jewelry.

## INDUCTION CEREMONY

### Invitations to Induction Ceremony

Student Invitations. Allow at least one month for the arrival of certificates and jewelry; however, you should schedule the induction meeting before the end of the term and inform students two weeks prior to the ceremony. The ceremony could be a luncheon or a coffee hour or whatever other imaginative ceremony you would like. Sample letters and RSVP forms are shown in Exhibit I and Exhibit J.

Faculty Invitations. Invite the Decision Sciences and Information Systems faculty and any other interested parties. The Dean will often be pleased to congratulate these outstanding students since he/she spends most of the time dealing with problem students

Faculty Invitations. Invite the Decision Sciences and Information Systems faculty and any other interested parties. The Dean will often be pleased to congratulate these outstanding students since he/she spends most of the time dealing with problem students and is glad to meet outstanding students.

Press Invitations. You should also send a bulletin to the school paper (see publicity section) and ask them to send a photographer. See Exhibit M.

### **Ceremony**

The ceremony should be performed according to the official initiation practices that are given in Exhibit K. Certificates and jewelry may be distributed (if they have arrived). Prior to the ceremony the faculty sponsor might explain to the students how they were chosen for membership in the society, since this is a frequent question at the meeting.

Chapter Induction Ceremony. Alpha Iota Delta is the international honorary in the Decision Sciences and Information Systems. It is dedicated to the ideal of solving the problems of mankind with humanity and rationality. Humanity is recognized by understanding that there is a human component to every decision. Rationality is recognized by understanding that there is a need in every decision for order, sensitivity, relativity and a systematic approach.

The hallmark of Alpha Iota Delta is the concern with solving the important problems of mankind with judgment, sensitivity, and the logical analyses of science.

Alpha Iota Delta, the international honorary in the decision sciences and information systems, was formed to foster the growth of these ideals within future generations by conferring distinction upon a very select group of collegiates who have distinguished themselves in decision sciences and information systems curricula and who hold high promise for distinction in their future careers.

Alpha Iota Delta operates through a system of chapters on college campuses throughout the world. Each chapter is chartered in accordance with a rigorous chartering process which exceeds by a substantial margin those of the National Accrediting Association of Collegiate Honor Societies.

### **Refreshments**

The induction meeting should be formal. Refreshments might be dessert and coffee or a luncheon or dinner. They could be served at a campus meeting place, or if it is luncheon or dinner, you may be able to get a private room at a local restaurant. You might call a caterer to make a dinner at a campus meeting room or ask a delicatessen to fix trays for you. If possible, ask students for an additional sum of money when they state that they will attend the induction meeting. Other ways to finance the refreshments are:

1. The dean of the college may have funds available for honoraries and other school-related activities.
2. Industry contributions—You might ask a local business to contribute funds as a tax-free donation.
3. Apply to the student senate or faculty senate to see if they have funds for school organizations.
4. The chapter could run a fund-raising activity such as a bake sale, tutoring, or any other creative ideas.

### **Speakers**

- Ask the dean to give a short welcome speech.
- Ask a Decision Science or Information System professor if she/he would like to give a speech.
- Ask local members of DSI, ORSA, and TIMS to discuss issues of importance.
- Ask Alpha Iota Delta alumni to speak on "How I Use Decision Sciences (Information Systems) in My Job." This could be a panel discussion.
- Ask managers of computer departments, operations research departments or local companies to speak about the importance of decision sciences and information systems.
- Others who could be contacted to speak are actuaries, forecasters, systems analysts, collectors, or computer store salesmen (to demonstrate new equipment).

companies to speak about the importance of decision sciences and information systems.

- Others who could be contacted to speak are actuaries, forecasters, systems analysts, pollsters, or computer store salesmen (to demonstrate new equipment).

### **Election of Officers**

Choose a slate of juniors or graduate students who will stay in school for at least one more year. Ask the membership to vote for President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer. The Chapter Sponsor may fulfill the functions of any of these offices.

### **PUBLICITY**

#### **Local News Releases and Articles**

Notify the school newspaper and ask for a photographer. Also send a list of sponsors and inductees to the school paper for an article. If you think your local newspapers might be interested, send them a publicity release.

A typical news release and notification is shown in Exhibit L. This will help school and local newspapers to give your chapter adequate coverage.

#### **National News Releases and Articles**

Send your chapter information to the Secretary for International Alpha Iota Delta for an article in *Decision Line* (see Exhibit M). Give as much lead time as possible to allow newspapers to find a space for your article. Remember to take photographs at the meetings.

### **POSSIBLE LOCAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES**

Each chapter is a unique and individual group that is free to select whatever projects might generate interest among members. There are three basic types of activities in which an honorary can engage. These include service, personal development, and fund raising. Many projects may overlap the major areas depending on the particular approach your group selects. A good example may be tutoring.

Tutoring may be a service project that benefits both the school and the students, or it may be a fund-raising project to finance the induction ceremony. Management science tutors are usually in high demand during the academic year.

Service projects are generally designed to benefit others that are outside of the organization, and at the same time provide a rewarding experience for members. A personal development activity is one that allows a wide selection of the numerous opportunities that exist. This is generally designed to meet the needs or interests of the group. A fund-raising activity is any project that generates income to support other group activities.

#### **Personal Development**

- Speakers from Industry
- Round Table Discussions
- Field Trips to Business or Government Organization

#### **Service**

- Tutoring
- Workshops for High School Student
- Computer programming
- Computer terminology
- Graphics presentations
- Volunteer Efforts

#### **Fund Raising**

- Car Wash
- Bake Sale

- Car Wash
- Bake Sale
- Sell Food, Magazines, Cards, Candles, etc.
- Computer Handbook -- for school computer
- Plant Sale

**EXHIBIT F**

<b>EXHIBIT F SAMPLE INVITATION FOR MEMBERSHIP LETTER 1</b>
January 10, 2005
Ms. Frances Ford
State University
P.O. Box 45
Center, Georgia 33333
Dear Ms. Ford:
We are pleased to inform you that you have been elected to membership in the Alpha Chapter of Alpha Iota Delta, National Decision Sciences Honorary. This honorary is interested in building and improving skills in the following four areas: problem isolation ability, data sense, modeling competence, and people skills.
We shall have our initiation ceremony in early April. Prior to this, we would like to order membership certificates and honorary keys for each member. If you would like to join at this time, please send a letter of acceptance and a check for \$\$\$ by February 15; this life-time membership fee covers the cost of the certificate, lapel pin, and other member benefits. Checks should be written to Alpha Iota Delta and sent to Dr. Mary Smith, Decision Sciences Department, State University, Center, Ga.
We would like to welcome you as a member of Alpha Chapter which was formed last year on the State University campus. We hope to start a program which will provide fellowship, intellectual stimulation, and worthwhile contacts in the decision sciences areas.
Sincerely,
Mary V. Smith
Chapter Sponsor

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Chapter Sponsor
<b>SAMPLE INVITATION FOR MEMBERSHIP LETTER 2</b>
<p>January 10, 2005</p> <p>Mr. Gregory Garrison  State University  P.O. Box 52  Center, Georgia 3333</p> <p>Dear Mr. Garrison:</p> <p>Congratulations! You are one of the 25 students who have been nominated for membership in the national decision, information, and operation sciences honorary society, Alpha Iota Delta.</p> <p>The purposes of the chapter are to confer distinction for academic excellence in the decision, information, and operation sciences; to promote the infusion of the functional and behavioral areas of administration with the tools, concepts, and methodologies of the Decision Sciences; and to promote professional fellowship among students, faculty, and administration who share a common interest in the development of the Decision Sciences.</p> <p>Alpha Iota Delta presents a unique opportunity for academically talented students with common interests in the area of decision sciences to enrich their professional educational programs and to extend their personal horizons. It is through group association and interpersonal communication that individual beliefs are challenged, new perspectives are gained, and advancements are made in the never-ending quest for knowledge.</p> <p>To become a full-fledged member, you must be nominated by an Alpha Iota Delta member, be in the upper 25 percent of your class, and you must have completed the equivalent of four decision sciences courses. The Alpha Chapter at State University will be honored by your membership and therefore invites you to contact Dr. Mary Smith, Room 200, Administration Building (office hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. or call 555-1234).</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Mary V. Smith  Chapter Sponsor</p>

**EXHIBIT G**

<b>EXHIBIT G</b>
<b>SAMPLE JEWELRY AND ADDRESS FORM</b>
<b>Alpha Iota Delta - Record Form</b>
Name:

Name:
Permanent Address:
Local Address:
Email Address:
Classification: Graduate Undergraduate
Degree/Major:
Please complete and return this form with your check.

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**EXHIBIT H**

<b>EXHIBIT H SAMPLE MEMBERSHIP LIST AND JEWELRY ORDER</b>
February 24, 2001
Dr. Terry Howard
Executive Director Alpha Iota Delta
22200 W. Eleven Mile Road, # 200
Southfield, MI 48037
United States
Dear Terry:
I am enclosing five checks for a total of \$625 for the membership fees for the five new members of Alpha Chapter at State University. We would like to order five honor cords at \$10.00 each.
Please send the certificates, lapel pins and honor cords to me as soon as possible.
Thank you for your help.
Sincerely,
Mary V. Smith

Sincerely,

Mary V. Smith

Chapter Sponsor

Enclosures

Date

Name	Address	Jewelry
Francis Ford	HOME: 11 Main Street Anton, GA 30422  Email:  SCHOOL: State University P.O. Box 46 Centerville, GA 33333	Pin
Gregory Garrison	HOME: 20 Oak Street Frank, GA 30222  Email:  SCHOOL: State University P.O. Box 70 Centerville, GA 33333	Charm
Helen Henderson	HOME: 7 South Street Morrow, GA 30021  Email:  SCHOOL: State University P.O. Box 73 Centerville, GA 33333	Pin
Isaac Innes	HOME: 1 North Street Valdosta, GA 30800 Email:  SCHOOL: State University P.O. Box 47	Pin

University  
P.O. Box  
47  
Centerville,  
GA 33333

**EXHIBIT I**

<b>Exhibit I</b>
<b>Sample Initiation Invitation Letter</b>
March 13, 2001
Dear Alpha Iota Delta Initiates and Faculty:
The induction reception for Alpha Iota Delta will be held at 2:30 on this Thursday, April 5, in the Administration Building Faculty Lounge. Dr. Simon Smith, Dean of the College of Business at State University, will be present to welcome the initiates.
Please RSVP by Monday, April 2nd. Leave a note in my office, Room 222.
Thank you,
Mary V. Smith
Chapter Sponsor

**EXHIBIT J**

<b>Exhibit J</b>
<b>Sample Initiation Invitation Letter and RSVP Form 1</b>
A reception honoring new Alpha Iota Delta members will be held on April 5, 2001, at 2:30 p.m. in the Administration Building Faculty Lounge. Initiation will take place at the banquet. Please complete the lower portion of this sheet and return to Room 222 by April 2.

Administration Building Faculty Lounge. Initiation will take place at the banquet. Please complete the lower portion of this sheet and return to Room 222 by April 2.

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Name
I will attend the luncheon.
I will not attend the luncheon.
<b>Sample Initiation Invitation Letter 2</b>
March 15, 2001
Dear Alpha Iota Delta Member:
The Alpha Alpha Chapter of Alpha Iota Delta (Decision Sciences and Information Systems Honorary) invites you and your spouse/friend to the annual induction ceremony of its new members that will be held on:
Thursday, April 5, 2001
at 2:30 p.m.
Administration Building
Faculty Lounge
Dessert will be served.
Sincerely,
Mary V. Smith, Chapter Sponsor
Alpha Iota Delta
<b>RSVP: 555-1234 (office)</b>

## EXHIBIT K

<b>Exhibit K</b>
<b>Member Initiation— Version 1</b>
<b><i>Introduction</i></b>
Initiation into Alpha Iota Delta is the vehicle for bestowing recognition upon those who have achieved the standard of academic excellence sought by our discipline, decision, information, and operation sciences. The tone of the ritual should motivate the initiate to strive for continued excellence in our discipline.
<b><i>Procedure</i></b>
An initiation team, composed of the local President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer or some appropriate substitutes shall conduct the ritual in a quiet place, conducive to the purpose of the ceremony. The initiates will stand before the team in a comfortable but orderly array.
<b><i>Ritual</i></b>
President: At this moment in time we are gathered not to search how you may commit your life in the future as much as to recognize a present commitment. Future commitments are a result of relevant and meaningful past commitments, and it is in realization of this that we exist as an organization. You have lived well by your commitment to Decision Sciences an Information Systems and your measured achievement has been noted.
Our purposes are to recognize academic excellence in the decision, information, and operation sciences; to fuse the tools, concepts, and methodologies of the decision, information, and operation sciences into the functional and behavioral are of administration; to promote professional fellowship among students, faculty, and administrators who share a common interest in the decision, information, and operation sciences; and to maintain the highest degree of professional ethics. If you accept the recognition and the concomitant responsibilities that membership in Alpha Iota Delta connotes, please answer, "I do," as your name is called and form a line in front of the head table from my left to right.
Raise your right hand and repeat after me, using your full name where I use mine.
"I, do solemnly promise, to abide by the chapter Constitution and By-Laws of Alpha Iota Delta to the best of my ability. I further promise to maintain the highest moral and scholastic standing, and to foster the ideals and purposes of Alpha Iota Delta."

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Please lower your hands.
Our emblem is a symbol of our purposes. The shape is a symbol of the shield of reason. Alpha, Iota, Delta are taken from the Greek words $\alpha\kappa\alpha\delta\epsilon\mu\iota\alpha$ (academia), $\epsilon\delta\iota\alpha$ (edia), $\delta\epsilon\lambda\tau\alpha$ (the i revnisis) which stand for academic pursuit, theoretical exploration, and applications in research.
Welcome to Alpha Iota Delta.

<b>Member Initiation — Version 2</b>
Members of the chapter are seated as desired by the chapter.
President: Members of Alpha Alpha Chapter of Alpha Iota Delta, the induction ceremony will begin.
Candidates for membership, please rise.
Do you seek admission to Alpha Iota Delta?
Candidates: I do.
President: By your scholarship you have earned an invitation to membership in Alpha Iota Delta. Alpha Iota Delta is the national honorary in the decision, information, and operation sciences. It is dedicated to the ideal of solving the important problems of mankind with judgment, sensitivity, and the logical analysis of science. The decision sciences approach to achieving these ideals is embodied in our name ALPHA IOTA DELTA.
ALPHA is the first letter of the Greek alphabet. It represents the beginning point of inquiry—the scientific world. The scientific world is composed of logic, a well defined body of theory, a reservoir of mathematics applicable to that theory, and variables which are largely under the control of the analyst.
IOTA represents the decision world. It involves the environmental factors largely beyond the control of the decision maker—including the people involved in the problem, the constraints of time, and inadequate or unavailable data.
DELTA represents the decision scientist who carries the responsibility of reflecting the values of the world of science in the world of decision.
The decision scientist approaches decision making with the objectivity of the scientist. He keeps the human considerations foremost in his mind while pursuing the most rigorous analytical approach to the problem that is possible, given all of the circumstances surrounding the problem.
Having heard the challenge of the decision scientist, do you promise to strive continually to combine judgment, art, and science for the betterment of the decisions of mankind? If so, your response is, I do.
Candidates: I do.
.
President: I now install you as members of ALPHA IOTA DELTA with all of the rights, privileges, and responsibilities pertaining thereto.

Other possible ceremony words:

ALPHA means the beginning. It not only signifies the beginning of your career in decision, information, and operation sciences but also it signifies your commitment to leadership.

A leader develops guiding ideas and articulates them deliberately. The meaning and sometimes the expression of these guiding ideas evolve as people reflect and talk about them, and as they are applied to guide decisions and actions.

A leader recognizes that the importance of the whole suggests that relationships are more fundamental than individual parts, and that the decision making process involves

A leader recognizes that the importance of the whole suggests that relationships are more fundamental than individual parts, and that the decision making process involves communication, challenging us to see the interrelationships that exists among us. The true leader is strong but empathetic.

The word IOTA represents integration, both of knowledge and also of concept. The relationship between theories, methods, and tools lies at the heart of any field of human endeavor that truly builds knowledge. The continuous cycle of creating theories, developing and applying practical methods and tools based on the theories, leading to new insights that improve the theories – is the primary engine of growth in decision sciences and computer information systems.

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The true leader is not limited in either vision or perspective. Iota signifies that you will always strive to be at the forefront of scholarship in your respective fields, developing and articulating guiding ideas.

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DELTA is the universal symbol for change. It signifies that you respond to change with rationality and logic.

A leader in decision, information, and operation sciences knows that to act rationally means

- Attempting to reach some goal that can not be attained without positive action
- Understanding of courses by which a goal can be reached
- Utilizing information and abilities to analyze and evaluate alternatives in light of the goal sought
- Optimizing by selecting the alternatives that best satisfy goal achievement.

A leader responds to change rationally and logically, integrating knowledge and concepts, to develop and articulate guiding ideas for the organizations they serve.

**EXHIBIT L**

<b>Exhibit L</b>
<b>Sample News Release</b>
TO: Alex Thomas, News Editor
Information Services
From: Mary V Smith, Chapter Sponsor
Date: March 15, 2001
Subject: ALPHA IOTA DELTA HONORARY
Enclosed are comments with regard to the induction ceremony for the Alpha Alpha Chapter of Alpha Iota Delta, Honor Society in the decision, information, and operation sciences, for news release. A map is also enclosed to indicate the location of the induction, in case the photographer can attend for the purpose of taking a picture of the group.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
RE: Establishment of the Alpha Alpha Chapter of Alpha Iota Delta.
Alpha Iota Delta is the international honor society of the Decision Sciences Institute and other related

Alpha Iota Delta is the international honor society of the Decision Sciences Institute and other related profession organizations. The Decision Sciences Department has sponsored the Alpha Alpha Chapter in the College of Business at State University and obtained its charter.

The purposes of the chapter are to confer distinction for academic excellence in the decision, information, and operation sciences; to promote the infusion of the functional and behavioral areas of administration with the tools, concepts, and methodologies of the decision, information, and operation sciences; and to promote professional fellowships among students, faculty, and administration who share a common interest in the development of the decision, information, and operation sciences.

In order to qualify for such a chapter, the school must be able to exhibit that four Decision Sciences and Information Systems program certification guidelines are achieved in the institution; our curriculum must promote the importance of "problem isolation ability," "data sense," "modeling competence," and "people skills."

After careful analysis of our program in these four areas we have been awarded with a chapter.

Mary V. Smith, sponsor of this chapter and member of the Board of Directors of the national Alpha Iota Delta society, will induct the following members in this chapter on Thursday, April 5, at 2:30 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge in the Administration Building: Francis Ford, Gregory Garrison, Helen Henderson, and Isaac Innes.

**Reprint of Article from the Daily Campus Weekender, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, Friday, April 30, 1976**

**Honorary to initiate graduates**

The Southern Methodist University Kappa Chapter of Alpha Iota Delta, the newly formed decision science honorary of the business school will initiate nine undergraduates and 10 graduate students at a noon luncheon today at the Charcoal Broil restaurant.

Undergraduates who will be initiated are Thomas Bailey, Frances Carter, Sylvia Lessenberry, Melissa Pittard, Robert Pruitt, James Semrau, Jean Stauffer, Amanda Warner and Lawrence Wilk.

Graduate students are Forbes Alcott, Donald Coons, Joseph Daune, Debra Dennis, Lynn Gibson, Julie Hoffman, Byron Mowatt, James Petty, Kim Sledge and Steve Uphan.

Alpha Iota Delta was formed at Georgia State University in 1971 and now has a membership of 16 collegiate chapters throughout the country.

Sponsors for the SMU chapter are Dr. Marion Sobol, associate professor of Management Science and Computers, Dr. Constantine Konstans, professor of Accounting, and Dr. Roger Kerin, assistant professor of Marketing.

**EXHIBIT M**

<b>EXHIBIT M</b>
<b>REPRINT OF ARTICLE FROM DECISION LINE, APRIL 1979</b>
<b>Alpha Iota Delta</b>
by Sandra Beldt, Georgia State University
Several Alpha Iota Delta Chapters held their charter initiation or induction ceremonies during the past year.
The Kappa Chapter of Alpha Iota Delta, at the Southern Methodist University, initiated nine undergraduates and ten graduate students at a noon luncheon at the Charcoal Broil restaurant on April 30, 1976. Undergraduates who were initiated were Thomas Bailey, Frances Carter, Sylvia Lessenberry, Melissa Pitard, Robert Pruitt, James Semarau, Jean Stauffer, Amanda Warner, and Lawrence Wilk. Graduate students were Forbes Alcott, Donald Coons, Joseph Daune, Debra Dennis, Lynn Gibson, Julie Hoffman, Byron Mowatt, James Petty, Kim Sledge, and Steve Uphan. Sponsors of the SMU chapter are Dr. Marion Sobol, associate professor of Management Science and Computers; Dr. Constantine Konstans, professor of Accounting; and Dr. Roger Kerin, assistant professor of Marketing.

<b>Reprint of Article from Decision Line, November/December 2017</b>
<b>Alpha Iota Delta News</b>
by Jesse E. Raine, University of Tulsa
The national business meeting of Alpha Iota Delta was held in New Orleans in conjunction with the annual meeting of Decision Sciences Institute in November.
The first order of business was the approval of the financial report, which showed that the 2017-18 income exceeded expenses by approximately \$10,677, so we are still solvent.
A discussion of the inventory of Alpha Iota Delta insignia followed, which indicated that only a few keys, tie tacks, and tie chains are still in stock. When these are gone, the replacement costs will probably be much higher due to the price of gold. When the new prices become effective, the Executive Vice-President will notify all chapter advisors and officers of Alpha Iota Delta of the new prices.